

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Pest Detection and Management Programs - Program Update

Program: Huanglongbing (HLB - Citrus Greening) Date: November 4, 2005

Broward, Hendry, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, Sarasota, and St. Lucie counties were positive for citrus greening according to tests conducted by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry (DPI). APHIS continues to confirm the presence of Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus, causal agent of citrus greening, in those samples provided by DPI. Since August, 404 positive trees from 268 locations in residential properties and commercial groves have been identified. The survey strategy over the next few weeks will focus on buffer areas around commercial citrus nurseries in Desoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, and Polk Counties. These surveys will be carried out cooperatively between Florida and APHIS. Due to Hurricane Wilma, recovery efforts have hampered surveys.